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with employers, wages and demands, and his opportunities. In the opinion of the reviewer the four chapters on this subject show Mr. Jones at his best. He has not only placed before the world certain interesting figures, but his discussion of the laborers' traits as formed by centuries of customs and molded by successive methods of overlordship gives a clear insight into one of the major reasons for the political unrest manifested during the last decade.

Chapters are also devoted to the internal development of commerce and industries, transportation, colonization, the foreign commerce, the status of the foreigner in Mexico and a brief history of border troubles and Mexican American relations.

RALPH H. ACKERMAN.

A History of California: The Spanish Period. By CHARLES E. CHAPMAN, PH.D. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1921. Pp. x, 527. Maps and illus. \$5.00.)

Professor Chapman who has spent thirteen years in the study of California history, and has seen virtually every document bearing upon this field, presents here a synthesis designed to appeal to the general public. In order to accomplish this purpose he has accorded considerable space to interesting and even almost fantastic incident. He gives a popular and attractive account of the geography and the native races of California, dwells upon the lost opportunity of the Mongolians, takes considerable pains to show the bearing of portions of his narrative upon present-day problems and conditions, delineates fully and with delicate touch the character of the Spanish heroes who have made their contribution to California history, and does not hesitate to relate at some length the romance of Razánof and the beautiful Concepción Argüello. By these and similar methods he seeks to entice the reader, as it were, to dip into the more serious and heavy parts of the narrative where he may acquire new facts and a broader and more profound understanding of this portion of the North American continent, where he may behold California history "in its proper perspective" and be convinced that California has a "great deal more to contribute to the cherished traditions of the American people" than heretofore has been indicated.

Whether the author has set forth this scholarly and reliable account of California history in such a fashion as to grip and hold the attention of the popular reader the future alone can decide. The task is by no means an easy one, although it should be, as Professor Chapman

believes," the ultimate aim of all historical scholarship". Whatever the attitude of the public for which the author entertains such generous regard, the more serious student of Hispanic American history can hardly fail to acknowledge a debt of gratitude; for Professor Chapman has not lost sight of him. Not only has he presented much new material and placed California history in its Hispanic and North American setting, but he has pointed out numerous topics for further investigation and included in the appendix what will prove an almost indispensable bibliographical guide.

Unless the book be criticised on the ground that it is too serious and detailed and heavy in places for the general reader—a thing which is doubtful and which, if true, could well be considered a reflection upon this gentle being and not the author—one can find little fault with it. There are, however, a few minor errors and defects. The first sentence of the preface is somewhat awkward; the opening sentences of the last paragraph of Chapter I. convey the impression that the author considers the Indians of California as belonging to the "great peoples" who either by land or by sea advanced towards the Californias; the author fails, in keeping with his intention (expressed in the preface) to mention "strikingly important items" bearing on each chapter at the end of the chapter in question, to refer to Pochstaller's thesis on the Jesuits in Baja California or to Bolton's *Father Kino* and *Spanish Borderlands* in connection with the account of the overland advance to the Californias, 1687–1765, as he likewise fails to mention in his bibliography Blair and Robertson's documents on the Philippines and such important and pertinent French works as those of Duhaut-Cilly and Duflot de Mofras.

Such minor defects as these may easily be remedied in a second edition, however; and all of them combined are insignificant when balanced against the important merits of the work. Professor Chapman has produced, in the opinion of the reviewer, the best all round single volume on California, and it will perhaps be a long time before it is superseded by one more trustworthy or even more interesting and attractive. It is hoped that Professor Clelland who, with a viewpoint "precisely analogous" to that of Chapman, is now writing an account of the American period of California history will achieve an equal measure of success.

University of Chicago.

J. FRED RIPPY.